1877.]

100.60

yielding the empiric formula-

$$Mg_{3}Fe_{2}Ca_{5}C_{10}O_{30}$$

also---

 $(\frac{3}{5}Mg, \frac{2}{3}Fe)CaC_2O_6$

Dr. Headden's analysis (loc. cit.) gives-

CaCO ₂	=	50.72	:	100	=	0.5072	molecules
$MgCO_2$	=	21.98	:	88	=	0.2497	
FeCO,	=	27.29	:	116	=	0.2352	
Insoluble	=	0.22					
		100.91					

yielding the empiric formula-

$$Mg_5Fe_5Ca_{10}C_{20}O_{60}$$

also-

(¹/₂Mg, ²/₅Fe)CaC₂O₆

OCTOBER 9.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty members present.

Apparent Discriminative Power in the Selection of Food by a Heliozoon.-Prof. LEIDY remarked that he had on several occasions observed actions in the rhizopods apparently indicating a discriminative power in the selection of food. It was certain that they generally swallowed living algæ and animalculæ, and avoided dead ones. He recently had observed a heliozoon eject an article, which appeared to indicate discriminative power. The heliozoon was Acanthocystis spinifera. The genus differs from Actinophrys in being provided with siliceous rays in addition to the ordinary soft rays. The former emanate from minute disks, forming, as it were, a sort of flexible armor to the body of the Acanthocystis. While examining an individual, a rapidly moving, oval, flagellate infusorium, as it was supposed to be, came into contact with several of the soft rays. The infusorium was paralyzed; it assumed a globular shape and became quiescent. It was gradually drawn towards the body of the heliozoon, which projected its armor to meet it, but quickly withdrew it again, and the heliozoon was pushed off beyond the siliceous rays. The same movements were repeated, and then the infusorian remained outside the siliceous rays. The objects were examined from time to time for several hours. The infusorium was no more drawn towards the body of the heliozoon. After a time it projected a minute bud, which gradually extended into a tortuous tube, proving the supposed infusorium to be a zoospore. It was finally abandoned by the heliozoon, apparently as if it had been determined not to be its proper food.

On Helminthophaga leucobronchialis (Brewster). — SPENCER TROTTER communicated the fact that last winter, while arranging the collection of warblers (Sylvicolidæ) in the museum of the Academy, he had discovered among them a specimen of Helminthophaga leucobronchialis. This rare species was described by Mr. Wm. Brewster, of Cambridge, Mass., who procured the first specimen at Newtonville, Mass., in the spring of 1870, a description and plate of which he published in the Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club for April, 1876. A second specimen was taken near Clifton, Delaware Co., Pa., in May, 1877, by Mr. C. D. Wood, an account of which Mr. Trotter sent to the Bulletin for July, 1877. The one now under consideration is, therefore, the third specimen of this rare species which has been discovered.

When he found it, there was no label attached designating its species, sex, or the locality where it was procured; but on the bottom of the stand was written "J. C., 20 Oct. 1862," and three other words that were much blurred, and which he believed to be "not from Bell." Bell is an Ornithologist of New York. The above indicates that John Cassin (for all the birds he examined have the same J. C. written on the stands or labels) had studied the specimen. The date he supposed to be that of its capture; and it is a curious fact that this specimen should have been procured at least eight years before the one from which the first description was taken. He had compared the specimen carefully with Mr. Brewster's description, also with Mr. Wood's specimen, and with these it agrees almost precisely. As the two former were males, from its similarity to them, he believed this one to be a male also. He took pleasure in adding another rare bird to the many which the Academy already possesses.

OCTOBER 16.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Twenty-five members present.

Mineralogical Notes.—Professor GEO. AUG. KENIG placed on record the results of an investigation of a peculiar form of Magnetite from Magnet Cove, Ark. The material was obtained from